

Council on Student Attendance: Board Policy Review Document



Nebraska Revised Statute § 79-209 requires local boards of education to have, “a written policy on attendance developed and annually reviewed in collaboration with the county attorney.” In 2016, the Council on Student Attendance developed a checklist for use during the annual policy review process.

	What is not acceptable?	What meets statutory requirements?	Meets Requirements (✓)
Policy Review Process	A policy has not been updated since Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-209 was signed into law in 2014.	It is evident that there is a local board policy review process in place. The attendance policy has been updated since 2014 and indicates number of absences (or hourly equivalency) upon which intervention and support is provided for a student or family and how a referral would be sent to the county attorney.	
Student Illness-related Absences	Policy does not differentiate among illness-related absences making attendance impracticable from other absences.	Policy outlines how absences are considered when a student has an absence that makes it impracticable to attend school.	
Family Communication	Policy does not describe the process for communicating with student or family.	Policy describes how the school communicates with a student's family (a) when a student is absent from school, (b) when the student has missed multiple days (c) about setting up a meeting and developing a collaborative plan and (d) how the student/family would be notified prior to referral to the county attorney.	
Problem Solving and Collaborative Planning	Policy does not include a collaborative plan.	Policy describes the process for problem solving and developing a collaborative plan with school representatives, the student, and family present.	
Student Support	Policy does not describe student support that may reduce incidence of absenteeism.	Policy describes how the collaborative planning process addresses barriers to attendance that could include student support related to physical or behavioral health, educational counseling and/or evaluation, referral(s) to community agencies for student-related support.	
Family Support	Policy does not describe family support that may reduce incidence of absenteeism.	Policy describes how the collaborative planning process addresses barriers to attendance that could include student support related to referrals to community agencies that could address (a) economic services, (b) family or individual counseling, (c) and/or assist the family in working with other community services.	

More student attendance resources available at: <https://www.education.ne.gov/APAC/StudentAttendance.html>

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